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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KUBOTA et al

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Serial No. 10/528,155

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June 9, 2008

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a Supplementary European Search Report mailed April 22, 2008 with respect to the counterpart European application. A completed PTO/SB/08a form is attached as are copies of the non-US patent documents cited.

Official citation and consideration of all the listed documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO/SB/08a with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

/DM/ EP 1 323 670 is in German so its U.S. patent family member U.S. 2003/157015 is also listed as an English equivalent document.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for any fees required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

/Daniel Miller/

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